



Have you ever wondered how children played 400 years ago? If you were to look at a picture painted by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, in 1560, then you could discover the answer.

It is a large painting that shows children and adults playing almost a hundred games. You can see groups playing such games as Blind Man's Bluff, Tug-o-War, Running the Gauntlet, and Windmills on a Stick. One man is standing on his head. Two others are turning somersaults, and three are riding the fence like a horse. You can find runners, climbers, marchers, dancers, tumblers, fighters, singers, jumpers, bowlers, and pantomimers.

There is a myriad of detail with many kinds of play, players, and playthings depicted. Because there is so much to see, Bruegel has been called an encyclopedic painter. As you look at this painting called "Children's Games" you will be able to identify many of the games you play or have played.

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1. This article is about:
 - (a) games
 - (b) climbers
 - (c) a painting
 - (d) an artist
2. How many different games are depicted?
 - (a) almost 100
 - (b) almost 10
 - (c) almost 1000
 - (d) almost 50
3. What is it that one man is doing that is different?
 - (a) eating
 - (b) bouncing a ball
 - (c) singing
 - (d) standing on his head
4. Why is Bruegel called an encyclopedia painter?
 - (a) ways of teaching shown
 - (b) size of pictures
 - (c) amount and detail shown
 - (d) special games shown
5. Which is not a detail?
 - (a) Tug-o-War
 - (b) dogs
 - (c) riding the fence
 - (d) "Children's Games"
6. Myriad means:
 - (a) few
 - (b) a great many
 - (c) crowded
 - (d) in a pattern
7. This article indicates:
 - (a) children's games have changed
 - (b) children are easy to paint
 - (c) many children's games have not changed
 - (d) games are fun
8. From the description given of this painting, you could conclude:
 - (a) the painting shows no activity
 - (b) the painting shows all the games played 400 years ago
 - (c) the painting has only a few objects in it
 - (d) the painting is filled with activity